

Message

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Sent: 10/24/2016 3:37:11 PM
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CC: Arcaute, Francisco [Arcaute.Francisco@epa.gov]
Subject: Allied Press Clips

WMUK - Allied Paper Landfill To Be Capped, Consolidated
WWMT - EPA gives green light to final cleanup plan for Allied Paper landfill
WHTC - EPA picks plan to clean Allied Paper dumpsite

<http://wmuk.org/post/allied-paper-landfill-be-capped-consolidated>

Allied Paper Landfill To Be Capped, Consolidated

Rebecca Thiele • Oct 21, 2016

It looks like the hazardous waste at Kalamazoo's Allied Paper Landfill is here to stay. On Friday, the EPA released their final cleanup plan for the Superfund site. The mound of PCB contaminated soil will be consolidated to about half its size, leaving some of the land for redevelopment.

The \$63 million plan is similar to a proposal by the City of Kalamazoo to allow commercial and industrial businesses to move into the area. The EPA says the mound itself could become something like a park - with things like a walking trail, sledding, or a Frisbee golf course.

Kalamazoo assistant city manager Jerome Kisscorni says he was pleased with the EPA's decision.

"It tells you that yes we can get involved when the federal government comes in and we can sit down and work some things out. So it was a compromise and I think it's a good one," he says.

Many residents fought for removing all the waste. Others suggested hiring the bioremediation company BioPath Solutions - which uses microbes to neutralize toxic chemicals. Michael Berkoff is the EPA's remedial project manager for Allied. He says BioPath Solutions could not prove to the EPA that their product works on PCBs.

"We asked them to come to Chicago and A) Explain to us how their technology would work - how it would break down PCBs - and B) To present a bench scale study. They were unable to do either of those things," says Berkoff.

Once work at Allied starts, moving the waste will likely kick up some toxic PCBs into the air. Berkoff says the EPA will do its best to make sure the noise and dust doesn't reach residents:

"We have proven technologies we can use to control dust like wetting down excavation areas and doing air monitoring to confirm that we're actually being successful in that effort," he says.

The work will take about three years, which the EPA says is much less than many of the other cleanup options proposed.

<http://wwmt.com/news/local/epa-gives-green-light-to-final-cleanup-plan-for-allied-paper-landfill>

EPA gives green light to final cleanup plan for Allied Paper landfill

by WWMT Staff Friday, October 21st 2016

KALAMAZOO, Mich. (NEWSCHANNEL 3) - The Environmental Protection Agency has given the green light to the final cleanup plan for the Allied Paper landfill, in Kalamazoo.

The landfill is part of the larger Allied Paper Superfund site, which spans Allegan and Kalamazoo Counties.

The cleanup includes removing contaminated soil from sections of the landfill next to Portage Creek.

An impermeable cap will also be installed over the landfill.

The EPA will consider potential reuse and redevelopment for the site.

<http://whic.com/news/articles/2016/oct/22/epa-picks-plan-to/>

EPA picks plan to clean Allied Paper dumpsite

Saturday, October 22, 2016 6:49 a.m. EDT by John McNeill

KALAMAZOO (WKZO-AM) -- The EPA has settled on their plan to clean up the Allied Paper Landfill site and it's not the plan the community wanted, but it is the one that the city is willing to accept.

After years of debate, protests and negotiations, the announcement from the EPA was anticlimactic, arriving in a curt and vague news release on Friday, attached to about 800 pages of technical evaluation and official documents compiled by the Federal Agency.

In a nutshell, Alternative 2-D is the \$65-million plan that will concentrate all the contaminated soil at the 43 acre site between Alcott and Cork Street, into a 23-acre pile isolated from Portage Creek.

The contaminated soil will be covered by a large plastic sheet, and several feet of clean topsoil, creating a hill on the site. The remaining 20 acres along the creek could be redeveloped into industrial or commercial uses.

It would still be too contaminated for residential use. There could be some recreational uses for the new hill that would be created.

For years the official position of the City of Kalamazoo and environmental groups was that the only acceptable alternative was to have all the soil carted off to a landfill in Wayne County.

It was a project that would take up to ten years to accomplish and cost three to four times as much as the alternatives the EPA was looking at, and four to five times more than they had available to spend.

Mayor Bobby Hopewell and a city team negotiated the compromise, which had not been among the plans the EPA had been considering. He says "we would have ended up just capping this thing, and

not having any opportunities for something that might provide economic development or growth for our community."

Over half a dozen options were pitched, meticulously researched and evaluated during the many years the landfill clean-up has been under consideration.

Alternative 2-D was the only practical one that allows for reuse of the land and would not leave a 43-acre fenced off no-man's land on the city's south side.

Most of the money for the clean-up will come from the money squeezed out of the paper companies that are responsible for making the mess.

This landfill clean-up is just a small part of the much larger Superfund project, which is attempting to clean the Kalamazoo Rivers and some of its tributaries from Comstock to Lake Michigan.

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